



Arkansas Wireless Information Network

Report to the

**Joint Budget Committee
January 26, 2005**



Arkansas Wireless Information Network (AWIN) Program Status – a short description of the program, a list of the projects related to the program, and funding sources for the project.

Supplemental Appropriation Request – information regarding the request from the Department of Emergency Management for supplemental appropriation for the AWIN project.



Arkansas Wireless Information Network

AWIN is a multi-phased approach to building the infrastructure to complete a statewide interoperable radio system across state agencies and the command and control of state and local first responders. The first phase of the system will:

- Upgrade the existing Arkansas State Police (ASP) network to create the backbone for AWIN. Current users of the system will gain the benefits of a modern, seamless, and interoperable system. Current users include 17 state agencies, 22 local first responder agencies and local offices of 11 federal agencies.
- Integrate the upgrade of the Pine Bluff Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Plan (CSEPP) radio system into the first phase of AWIN. The CSEPP program was established to enhance the emergency preparedness in communities around the chemical stockpiles until the stockpiles are eliminated. The Pine Bluff Arsenal communicates daily with Jefferson and Grant counties and the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management to inform them of activities involving the stockpile. This integration will create operational efficiencies in the implementation and operation of both systems.
- Add three counties as a pilot program to build a fully interoperable radio system for the first responders in those counties. This effort will demonstrate the effectiveness of the operational design of AWIN. The Three County Pilot Project will provide the initial efforts to bring the interoperable network to the county and city level emergency responders level. The scope of the project is to work with Craighead, Lonoke, and Miller counties in building a fully interoperable radio system, based on Project 25 standards, for all public safety agencies in these counties. This project will provide additional infrastructure needed at the county level, upgraded dispatch units and integration into AWIN. Each county system will be considered part of the overall AWIN system. Further, a repeatable process will be identified that can be used as other counties integrate their infrastructure into AWIN.
- Provide interoperable communications to key governmental and first responder leadership in each Arkansas county.



Program Funding

The funding information below reflects the base cost and funding plan as determined in August of 2004. Changes to cost and funding is reflected in detail in the individual project status in this report.

Cost by identified Project:

ASP Network Upgrade	\$26,769,007.00
Three County Pilot Project	\$ 9,536,485.00
CSEPP	\$11,357,653.00
County Distribution for Command/Control	\$13,152,315.01
Bonding Expenses	\$ 3,107,768.01
Project Contingency	<u>\$ 84,655.97</u>
TOTAL COSTS of AWIN PHASE 1	\$64,007,883.99

Funds Available:

Federal Earmark Appropriation (held by ASP)	\$494,739.00
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) – CSEPP	\$11,357,653.00
Office for Domestic Preparedness (ODP) Previous Grants	\$3,680,070.98
FY04 State Homeland Security Grant Program – State Portion	\$ 4,821,370.00
FY04 State Homeland Security Grant Program – 3 County Pilot	\$ 9,536,485.00
FY04 State Homeland Security Grant Program – County Distribution	<u>\$13,152,315.01</u>
TOTAL Grant Monies Available	\$43,042,632.99
Bond Proceeds	<u>\$21,960,000.00</u>
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	\$65,002,632.99



This appropriation will be used for the implementation, operation and maintenance of the system as it is upgraded and expanded to include state and local agencies. Uses of these funds will include anticipated core infrastructure and system equipment to expand system capacity to meet the needs of added user agencies, professional service, and anticipated maintenance and operational expenses.

Use of Funds

- SYSTEM ENHANCEMENT/EXPANSION

- SmartZone Controller \$2,500,000

Funds to complete implementation of three county pilot project. Additional funds are required to meet the scope requirements of this project. 2 additional tower sites are required to meet system coverage requirements, and additional subscriber radios and dispatch consoles are required to meet the operational needs of the three counties.

○ Miller County	\$425,000
○ Lonoke County	\$425,000
○ Craighead County	<u>\$925,000</u>
○ TOTAL	\$1,775,000

The state has contracted with Buford Goff and Associates (BGA) of Columbia, South Carolina to provide quality assurance and implementation services on all phases of the AWIN project. Funds are needed to retain their services for the completion of the implementation of the system.

- BGA Services \$725,000